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Sudan UPR Briefing for Togo

Sudan Task Force

Advocacy and engagement with States coordinated by the Committee for Justice (CFJ).

The Sudan Task Force invites Togo to renew and strengthen its recommendations to Sudan in light of continuing violations, with concrete protection and accountability measures for the 2027 Universal Periodic Review.

Previous recommendations and implementation

Women's rights and treaty implementation

2022 recommendation 137.17: "Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women."

Implementation assessment: *Sudan supported this recommendation.* Sudan has not acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The accession objective remains outstanding. The Sudan Task Force documents rape and other sexual violence during raids, flight, detention and displacement. Survivors face fear of retaliation, stigma and limited access to medical, psychosocial and legal assistance.

Enforced disappearance treaty

2022 recommendation 137.52: "Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance."

Implementation assessment: *Sudan supported this recommendation.* The treaty step was completed before the 2022 review: Sudan acceded to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance on 10 August 2021. The Sudan Task Force documents unacknowledged detention, concealment of fate and whereabouts, and risks to families seeking information. It records the absence of an effective independent search system. Further recommendations should therefore focus on implementation and accountability.

Torture prevention and treaty implementation

2022 recommendation 137.53: "Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture."

Implementation assessment: *Sudan supported this recommendation.* Ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture remains outstanding. The Sudan Task Force documents beatings, electric shocks, painful suspension, sexual violence and deprivation of food, water and medical care in detention facilities controlled by different parties. Independent prevention, inspection and investigation remain necessary.

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New recommendations from the Sudan Task Force

The Sudan Task Force proposes that Togo put forward the following recommendations during Sudan's 2027 Universal Periodic Review.

Enforced disappearance

1. Within six months, establish an independent national mechanism to search for disappeared persons with the participation of families and civil society, register all reports, protect those seeking information, and publish quarterly data on cases in which fate and whereabouts have been clarified.

Torture and enforced disappearance

2. Within 12 months, criminalize torture and enforced disappearance in accordance with international definitions, ensure effective investigation and prosecution, and exclude evidence obtained by torture from proceedings. A statement obtained by torture may be used only against a person accused of torture as evidence that the statement was made.

3. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture within 18 months and establish an independent national preventive mechanism with effective access to places of detention. Immediately permit independent monitoring and confidential interviews in all detention facilities under State authority.

Sexual and gender based violence

4. Within six months, establish formal coordination between the unit combating violence against women, prosecutors and health authorities to investigate and refer conflict-related sexual violence cases, maintain a unified confidential case system, and publish annual anonymized data on investigations and judicial referrals.

5. Within six months, establish free and confidential referral services for survivors in conflict-affected States and displacement sites, providing medical care, psychosocial support and legal assistance, including accessible mobile services for children and women with disabilities, without conditioning care on filing a complaint.

Suggested note on timing: *Unless otherwise specified, the proposed implementation deadlines would run from the adoption of Sudan's 2027 UPR outcome. Existing legal obligations and urgent protection measures require immediate action.*

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